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ROBERT LEMIEUX, FLQ LAWYER, SPEAKS IN DETROIT

by Chris Singer

Fifth Estate/LIBERATION News Service

DETROIT(LNS)--"It's very, very heavy for lawyers to defend revolutionaries," in Canada.

Such an attorney could go to prison -- or, he could watch helplessly while the police confiscate all of his files and records.

He might even, if he is visible enough, be told by a police detective that: "I'm going to get myself a baseball bat and get you in a dark alley."

Robert Lemieux is visible enough for all of those things to have happened to him, and they did. So, when he told a banquet-meeting of the Detroit chapter of the National Lawyers Guild recently that things were "very, very heavy" for radical lawyers north of the border--he knew what he was talking about.

At 29, and after only five years of practice, Lemieux has emerged as the most notable radical lawyer in Canada. He served as the official mediator between authorities and the kidnappers of Labor Minister Pierre Laporte and British official James Cross. Laporte was killed by the kidnappers, who were members of the Front de Liberation du Quebec (FLQ), and Cross was eventually released.

The FLQ had demanded that the government free a number of political prisoners in exchange for the pair.

Lemieux has defended, for minimal fees, accused bombers, bank robbers, murderers and conspirators--all of whom have allegedly committed such acts to gain self-determination for Quebec.

Lemieux himself was tried and acquitted of charges of seditious behavior and the obstruction of justice, but still faces a charge of being a member of the outlawed FLQ. If convicted, he could be sentenced to up to five years in prison on that charge.

He was arrested, charged and spent four months in prison following the imposition, by Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, of the War Measures Act, last October. The War Measures Act, imposed after the kidnappings, outlawed the FLQ, allowed for detention without charge and other loss of civil liberties. The events are called, in Canada, the "October Crisis", and received international attention because of Cross' diplomatic status.

But, Lemieux had been long associated with the FLQ before the October Crisis. Since January, 1968, when he resigned from a prestigious Montreal civil law firm, Lemieux has led a nomadic life, living in a \$17-a-week Montreal hotel room and defending controversial clients before antagonistic judges.

Among his FLQ clients are Pierre Laporte and Charles Gauthier. Laporte was killed by the kidnappers and Gauthier was released after being held for 11 months.

Many of political crimes, have been in a Canadian jail since 1966. No trial dates have yet been set. Vallieres, the author of an autobiographical book, called "White Niggers of America," is often characterized as the Quebecois equivalent of Malcolm X. He is a Marxist, and the acknowledged political theoretician of the FLQ.

Vallieres and Gagnon were arrested while demonstrating for Quebec independence in front of the United Nations in New York City. Held for a time in the Manhattan House of Detention, otherwise known as the Tombs, they were illegally extradited to Canada, and have been in prison ever since.

Vallieres has influenced much of Lemieux's political thought.

"Economically, it (Quebec) is like the Third World," Lemieux told the Guild attorneys. He explained that the province's natural resources--timber, asbestos, aluminum, water used to generate hydro-electrical power, and others--are taken out of the province to be used in manufacturing elsewhere. Quebec has virtually only one local industry, textiles,, in which the workers are both underpaid and the victims of unsafe working conditions.

Five million people, 83% of the province population in French-speaking. These people are the descendants of French soldiers, vagabonds, convicts and the poor, who were forced to emigrate to Canada during the 18th century because the French government thought it would be an efficient way to repopulate Canada and rid France of homeless and hungry peasants at the same time. This present French-speaking majority is ruled by culturally different English-speaking Canadians.

To Lemieux, and the FLQ as well, this situation is not strictly the fault of Canada. When asked who his real enemy is, Washington or Ottawa, Lemieux quickly replied: "Washington." He dismisses the Canadian government with the back of his hand, calling it "the police force for American interests."

"The people who have the true power," he said, "are American corporations." U.S. interests do, in fact, own outright 65% of Canada's resources and industry.

Speaking as much with his hands as with his voice, the long-haired Lemieux explained that the FLQ seeks to change these conditions through self-determination for the Quebecois, the French-speaking majority of Quebec.

Primarily working-class oriented, the FLQ began forming into cells around 1963, Lemieux explained. By 1966, he said, they had evolved their program within a socialist framework, which Lemieux calls "true socialism in a Quebec style," developed by Quebecois to meet the needs of Quebecois.

And while the struggle for Quebecois self-determination is by no means a new or minority movement, it has deep historical roots tracing back to the 18th century. In the last election the separatists won 55% of the vote. September 4, 1971 more...

arartist political party polled nearly half of the province's French-speaking vote--the FLQ has added the dimensions of a socialist analysis which includes the concept of revolutionary violence.

An example of their actions, Lemieux said, was the bombing of the offices of an industrial plant after a worker was fired there.

The FLQ, he said, are "commandos," the military arm of the Quebec independence movement. During the years 1968 and 1969, the FLQ escalated their bombing attacks, always carefully explaining to the masses of Quebecois, Lemieux added, exactly why a target had been selected and bombed.

Laporte, he said, was chosen as the kidnap victim because he was "the patronage head of the government" and, he said, "the most corrupt politician in Quebec." Cross was abducted, he explained, because the FLQ knew his status as a British diplomat would attract widespread attention to their cause.

Was this act of violence--two men kidnapped and one murdered--tactically correct, Lemieux was asked.

"The long-term effect of that particular event will be good for the movement," he emphatically replied. He cited a recent university study which showed that 40% of the Quebecois polled felt menaced by the government in their high-handed, heavy show of force under the World War II vintage War Measures Act. Only a scant 20% of those polled felt menaced by the FLQ, and only 38% fully supported the government's action.

He said the FLQ is ideologically united and determined, along with other Quebec groups which are non-violent to achieve independence for Quebec. But, he added, "Quebec nationhood is not going to solve any of the problems of Quebec."

The Quebecois will not be free, Lemieux said, until they "rid themselves of foreign companies."

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DRAFT NEWS

NEW YORK (LNS)--During March, April and May the Selective Service System issued 110,387 induction orders. Of all those who received "Greetings" from their draft boards during that period, only 36,195 men were actually inducted--less than one third. The other two thirds either refused induction or got a change in their classification. Also, some men who had enlisted failed their physical examinations and were rejected. The Pentagon's three-month draft quota was only 77% filled.

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PLEASE PAY YOUR SEPTEMBER BILL

(Note to Editors: The following is part of a much longer article called Rape: The All-American Crime, in the September issue of Ramparts.)

RAPE AND THE "FALLEN WOMAN"

by Susan Griffin

LIBERATION News Service

For the woman in our society, civilized behavior means chastity before marriage and faithfulness within it. Chivalrous behavior in the male is supposed to protect that chastity from defilement. The fly in the ointment of this otherwise peaceful system is the fallen woman. She does not behave. And therefore she does not deserve protection.

Or, to use another argument, a major tenet of the same value system: what has once been defiled cannot again be violated. One begins to suspect that it is the behavior of the fallen woman, and not that of the male, that civilization aims to control.

The assumption that a woman who does not respect the double standard deserves whatever she gets (or at the very least "asks for it") operates in the courts today. While in some states a man's previous rape convictions are not considered admissible evidence, the sexual reputation of the rape victim is considered a crucial element of the facts upon which the court must decide innocence or guilt.

The court's respect for the double standard was particularly clear in the case of the People v. Jerry Plotkin. Mr. Plotkin, a 36-year-old jeweler, was tried for rape last spring in a San Francisco Superior Court.

According to the woman who brought the charges, Plotkin, along with three other men, forced her at gunpoint to enter a car one night in October 1970. She was taken to Mr. Plotkin's fashionable apartment where he and the three other men first raped her, and then, in the delicate language of the S.F. Chronicle, "subjected her to perverted sex acts."

She was, she said, set free in the morning with the warning that she would be killed if she spoke to anyone about the event. She did report the incident to the police who then searched Plotkin's apartment and discovered a long list of names of women. Her name was on the list and had been crossed out.

In addition to the woman's account of her abduction and rape, the prosecution submitted four of Plotkin's address books containing the names of hundreds of women. Plotkin claimed he did not know all of the women since some of the names had been given to him by friends and he had not yet called on them.

Several women, however, did testify in court that Plotkin had, to cite the Chronicle, "lured them up to his apartment under one pretext or another, and forced his sexual attentions on them."

Plotkin's defense rested on two premises. First, through his own testimony Plotkin established a reputation for himself as a sexual libertine who frequently picked up girls in bars and took them to his house where sexual relations often took place. He was the Playboy. He claimed that the accusation of rape, therefore, was false--this incident had simply been one of many casual sexual relationships, the victim one of many playmates.

The second premise of the defense was that his accuser was also a sexual libertine. However, the picture created of the young woman (fully 13 years younger than Plotkin) was not akin to the light-hearted, gay-bachelor image projected by the defendant.

On the contrary, the day after the defense cross-examined the woman, the Chronicle printed a story headlined, "Grueling Day for Rape Case Victim." (A leaflet passed out by women in front of the courtroom was more succinct, "rape was committed by four men in a private apartment in October; on Thursday, it was done by a judge and a lawyer in a public courtroom.")

Through skillful questioning fraught with innuendo, Plotkin's defense attorney James Martin MacInnis portrayed the young woman as a licentious opportunist and unfit mother. MacInnis began by asking the young woman (then employed as a secretary) whether or not it was true that she was "familiar with liquor" and had worked as a "cocktail waitress."

The young woman replied (the Chronicle wrote "admitted") that she had worked once or twice as a cocktail waitress. The attorney then asked if she had worked as a secretary in the financial district but had "left that employment after it was discovered that you had sexual intercourse on a couch in the office."

The woman replied, "That is a lie. I left because I didn't like working in a one-girl office. It was too lonely." Then the defense asked if, while working as an attendant at a health club, "you were accused of having a sexual affair with a man?" Again the woman denied the story, "I was never accused of that."

Plotkin's attorney then sought to establish that his client's accuser was living with a married man. She responded that the man was separated from his wife. Finally he told the court that she had "spent the night" with another man who lived in the same building.

At this point in the testimony the woman asked Plotkin's defense attorney, "Am I on trial? ...It is embarrassing and personal to admit these things to all these people...I did not commit a crime. I am a human being." The lawyer, apologized and immediately resumed questioning her, turning his attention to her children. (She is divorced, and the children at the time of the trial were in a foster home.)

sex game in which one gets on top of another and they--" "That is a lie! the young woman interrupted him. She ended her testimony by explaining "They are wonderful children. They are not perverted."

The jury, divided in favor of acquittal ten to two, asked the court stenographer to read the woman's testimony back to them. After this reading, the Superior Court acquitted the defendant of both the charges of rape and kidnapping.

* * *

One should not assume that a woman can avoid the possibility of rape simply by behaving. Though myth would have it that mainly "bad girls" are raped, this theory has no basis in fact. Available statistics would lead one to believe that a safer course is promiscuity.

In a study of rape done in the District of Columbia, it was found that 82 percent of the rape victims had a "good reputation." Even staying off the streets is rather useless, for almost half of reported rapes occur in the home of the victim and are committed by a man she has never before seen. Like indiscriminate terrorism, rape can happen to any woman, and few women are ever without this knowledge.

But the courts and the police, both dominated by white males, continue to suspect the rape victim of provoking or asking for her own assault. According to Professor Menachem Amir's study of 646 rape cases in Philadelphia, the police tend to believe that a woman without a good reputation cannot be raped. The rape victim is usually forced to submit to countless questions about her own sexual mores and behavior by the police investigator.

This preoccupation is partially justified by the legal requirements for prosecution in a rape case. The rape victim must have been penetrated, and she must have made it clear to her assailant that she did not want penetration (unless of course she is unconscious).

A refusal to accompany a man to some isolated place to allow him to touch her does not in the eyes of the court, constitute rape. She must have said "no" at the crucial genital moment. And the rape victim, to qualify as such, must also have put up a physical struggle--unless she can prove that to do so would have been to endanger her life.

But the zealous interest the police frequently exhibit in the physical details of a rape case is only partially explained by the requirements of the court. A woman who was raped in Berkeley was asked to tell the story of her rape four different times "right out in the street," while her assailant was escaping.

She was then required to submit to a pelvic examination to prove that penetration had taken place. Later, she was taken to the police station where she was asked the same questions again: "Were you forced?" "Did he penetrate?" "Are you sure your life was in danger and you had no other choice?"

"Isn't it true that your two children have a

In her words, "The rape was probably the least traumatic incident of the whole evening. If I'm ever raped again, I wouldn't report it to the police because of all the degradation."

If white women are subjected to unnecessary and often hostile questioning after having been raped, third world women are often not believed at all. Third world women frequently do not report rape and for good reason. When blues singer Billie Holiday was 10 years old she was taken off to a local house by a neighbor and raped. Her mother brought the police to rescue her, and she was taken to the local police station crying and bleeding.

"When we got there, instead of treating me and Mom like somebody who called the cops for help, they treated me like I'd killed somebody. I guess they had me figured for having enticed this old goat into the whorehouse. . . All I know for sure is they threw me into a cell. a fat white matron saw I was still bleeding, she felt sorry for me and gave me a couple glasses of milk. But nobody else did anything for me except give me filthy looks and snicker to themselves.

"After a couple of days in a cell they dragged me into a court Mr Dick got sentenced to five years They sentenced me to a Catholic institution "

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HOW TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE PEOPLE
CIA USES THREAT OF STARVATION IN LAOS

[illegible][illegible]

VIENTIANE, Laos (LNS) -- For six months, the Miao tribespeople around Long Pot, 80 miles north of Vientiane, have not been receiving their rice rations. After five years during which practically no rice has been grown in the region because of the war, the mountain people had become totally dependent upon supplies of rice dropped from American planes. Then suddenly last February, the planes stopped coming

Tribal leaders in Long Pot told a visiting American scholar that the rice stopped coming right after the people of the village refused to send their 14-year-old youths to fight with the U.S.-financed Meo army of General Vang Pao.

According to Yale professor Alfred W. McCoy, tribal leaders said Americans from the CIA base at Long Cheng had offered them two alternatives for resumption of the relief program: provide more soldiers to Vang Pao or move their villages within the perimeter of the Long Cheng base complex. The leadership refused both alternatives and rice supplies were halted last February.

The people of Long Pot felt they had given far too much in this war. Almost all their men 15 and over are already serving with Vang Pao. "I know the 15-year-olds are gone," a chief told McCoy, "because I put them on the helicopter myself."

A move from Long Pot into the base at Long Cheng would make the village totally dependent upon Vang Pao and the American, the leaders said. They characterized Vang Pao as the most hated man in the mountains "for sending the Meo to be killed."

U.S. AID officials in Vientiane of course denied McCoy's charges and insisted that "American policy is to feed any and all refugees " But even an official of the U.S.-supported regime in Vientiane didn't go along with this. He told McCoy that AID was informed of the Long Pot situation weeks ago, that they ignored the request for deliveries and that the same method is being employed against other recalcitrant villages in Laos.

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OSPAAAL HONORS GEORGE JACKSON

[Editor's note: The following is the edited text of a telegram sent to LHO on August 31 by the "Organismo de Solidaridad de los Pueblos de Asia, Africa y Latin America". Created in 1962, OSPAAAAL is an anti-imperialist organization of third world liberation movements. With its headquarters in Havana, the group facilitates communication within its membership and distributes information about third world struggles.]

HAVANA, Cuba (LNS) -- "Assassination of Afro-Cuban leader George Jackson by racist San Quentin warden...arouses unanimous indignation of...the world's progressive forces. It is a revolting crime against the struggle of black people in the United States. We demand severe punishment for the murderers..." - 30 -

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more . . .

PUERTO RICAN "INDEPENDISTA'S" BAIL REJECTED
FELICIANO BOMBING TRIAL SET FOR SEPT. 27

NEW YORK (LNS) -- Carlos Feliciano's lawyers won their first battle in Manhattan's Criminal Court on August 18. The presiding judge reduced the Puerto Rican "independista's" bail from \$150,000 to \$50,000. Feliciano, in jail since May 16, 1970, is now charged with placing 2 bombs in New York City department stores. At the time of his arrest he was charged with placing 41 bombs throughout the city.

Courtroom supporters, including members of the Young Lords Party, the Puerto Rican Student Union, El Komite and the Carlos Feliciano Defense Committee cheered the bail reduction with shouts of "Puerto Rico Libre."

Carlos' arrest is viewed by independentistas as an attempt to crush the Puerto Rican national liberation movement in New York City. Carlos, 45 years old, has been active in the independence movement since the late 1940's when he became a member of the Puerto Rican Nationalist Party. He spent several years in a Puerto Rican prison for his militant activity in the early 1950's. The Feliciano family came to New York City in 1955 after Carlos was black-listed from jobs in Puerto Rico.

Feliciano goes on trial September 27. Bail and money can be sent to El Comite, 577 Columbus Ave., New York, N.Y. 10024.

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PENTAGON SPONSORS "ORIENTATION TOURS" OF
US FOR FUTURE BRAZILIAN MILITARY LEADERS,
LUAUS AND DISNEYLAND

WASHINGTON (LNS) -- What would a Pentagon sponsored "orientation tour" of the U.S. for future Brazilian military officers include? According to the recent hearing of the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Latin America, nightclub shows in Las Vegas, trips to Disneyland, poolside lunches and accommodations in plush hotels like the Sheraton in San Francisco. And the bills for these tours in 1968, 1969, and 1970 add up to more than \$9 million.

Major General George S. Beatty, who runs the orientation program, testified that "orientation visits provide a unique opportunity to acquaint selected groups of current and future leaders with U.S. culture, technology and government."

"To the staff and command schools, the seminars mean knowledge of the United States at a formative time of the officers' development."

In May 1970, 59 visitors from the Bureau of Naval War College, after receiving a "5 gins" tour of San Diego at the naval training center, took a tour of Universal Studios in Hollywood, a trip to the island and "lunch at the Blue Bayou" (the restaurant) for \$67,000.

Another 2 week, \$90,000 extra gift was given in 1968 sent 74 visitors from the Brazilian National College to a beach party in New London. The party at Radio City Music Hall -- as guests of the American Company.

All tours for the Brazilian military proteges also consisted of visits to U S military bases, briefings by American officers and examination of U S military equipment

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YOU CALL THAT A CHICKEN????

TOKYO (LNS) -- A new chicken has appeared on Japanese markets. It is the buroira (a corruption of "broiler"), a force-fed fowl that is raised in a tiny cage in which it cannot walk, flap its wings or scratch for food. An imitation of certain U S breeds, the buroira is made to grow faster by lighting the coops 24 hours a day and is fed a mixture that includes cyclamates, chemical tranquilizers, laxatives, hormones, antibiotics and about a dozen different nutritional acids.

Though none of the ingredients in the chicken feed are considered harmful to people in those doses, there has been some clamor in Japan over the antibiotics, which can foster resistant strains of bacteria.

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BLACK MARINE CONVICTED IN OKINAWA

OKINAWA (LNS) -- PFC Robert Morgan, one of eleven blacks brought to trial as a result of riots on a Marine base in Okinawa last month, was found guilty of counts of breach of peace and assault August 26. Morgan was sentenced to 4 months confinement, forfeiture of \$90 a month, reduction in rank to private and a Bad Conduct Discharge.

The riots began July 4 and continued through the sixth. They were touched off when whites verbally harassed blacks and threatened them with chains, spurs, baseball bats and spear guns. Sixty blacks and 300 whites were involved in the riots.

Mark Amsterdam, a civilian attorney sponsored by the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York defended Morgan after two military lawyers assigned to the case resigned because they "could not get along with the accused"

Amsterdam moved originally to dismiss all charges since only blacks had been brought to trial although both whites and blacks participated in the riots. His motion was overruled.

The chief prosecutor branded Morgan "discriminatory" for calling for black unity and at one point during the court martial declared his fear of the threat of "young black muscular bodies "

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Sept 21, 1949 -- The People's Republic
of China is proclaimed'''

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LATTER-DAY RADIO PIONEER OFFERS AID
IN STARTING COMMUNITY RADIO STATIONS

LIBERATION News Service

Right now there are some eight thousand radio and television stations grinding out nothing so much as bad dog-shit. Everyday: gloop wall-to-wall syrup music, or babble-idiot discjockeys with top 40, or 24 hour non-news, or E-Z listening. They are broadcasting that, and making buckets of money in the process, an average return on invested dollar of 18% a year.

Broadcasting as it exists now in the United States is a pitiful, unmitigated whore. At some stage in its history, there was a chance to turn it to a creative, artful, caring medium; but then all the toads came along, realizing the power of radio and television to hawk their awful wares. The saga of broadcasting in America is littered with the bodies of those who wanted to do something significant.

But the spectrum is as big as all outdoors--and there is a niche here, a crack there, for those who care to try to squeeze some of the art back into radio. There are even ways for the poor and the dispossessed to get on the air, to have a chance to speak and be heard outside the next room, the next block.

Although most of this vital natural resource (the spectrum) has gone into the hands of the speculators and ruinators--there is a small portion of the FM band which was set aside for commercial-free operations; and due to some recent easing of restrictions concerning these frequencies, it is possible for small concerned groups to have their own small broadcast outlets.

I will help you out as much as I can if I am convinced that you truly want to set up a community oriented free form free forum listener volunteer station. If not: I can't help you. For I love broadcasting and radio too much to give free time and assistance to someone who will use a broadcast outlet as a stamping ground for some misshapen single-cell personality.

--Lorenzo Milam

Consider this an open letter from Lorenzo Milam, one of radio's latter-day pioneers, to anyone who is desperate enough over our polluted airwaves to seek a better day soon. It is also an excerpt from Lorenzo's new information-crammed booklet, "Sex and Broadcasting: a Handbook on Starting Community Radio Stations."

Milam founded KRAB (in Seattle--most recently known for hearings on "obscenity" when its license came up for renewal), KDNA (in St. Louis--operating out of a commune that got busted for planted dope a few months ago), KBOO (in Portland) and KTAO (in Los Gatos, near San Jose). These stations are partially or totally listener-supported non-commercial joys & struggles devoted to "tearing down the noxious walls that the media barons build to keep out the dispossessed, the thoughtful, the wondering."

Aside from generous smatterings of politics, philosophy, and prose poetry, Milam's "Handbook"

is probably the only publication on how to start a licensed people's radio station--and by one of the few people in the country qualified to write it. The meat is its lively and informative raps about frequencies, foundations, engineers, corporations, antennas, FCC Form 340, money, transmitters, lawyers, programming sources, and sources of aid and comfort in the battle to get on the air in the first place.

It's worth looking into, especially if you live or plan to live in the vast stretches of the country where nothing but schlock is heard up and down the band. Copies of the "Handbook" can be ordered for \$1 from KTAO, 5 University Ave., Los Gatos, Calif. 95030

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MICHAEL LEE BRANSOME, AMERICAN FUGITIVE GRANTED
"HUMANITARIAN ASYLUM" IN SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM (LNS)--The Swedish government, in an important court decision in late August, has granted Michael Lee Bransome, convicted of draft board destruction in Silver Springs, Maryland "humanitarian asylum." The 20 year old Bransome went underground in Sweden in early August to avoid being deported, but has surfaced since the court decision.

In May of 1969, Bransome and two companions entered the Selective Service Office in Silver Springs and destroyed files and equipment. They made no attempt to escape, and handed out statements as they were arrested, condemning the U. S. Government for "mass murder in Vietnam."

After serving seven months of a three year sentence for destruction of government property, Bransome fled to Canada while on a seven day leave in April of 1970. After ten months underground in Canada, he flew to Sweden where he thought he could get political asylum.

But Sweden only grants political asylum to people "who run the risk of being sent to a war zone." That did not apply in Bransome's case, so he went underground again until the unprecedented court decision granting him asylum.

The American Deserters Committee in Stockholm with whom Bransome has been in contact since his arrival in Sweden, feels that Bransome's case is an important precedent with regard to future refugees from the U. S.

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[For more background, see packet #367, page 5]

(Editors note: The following is part of a telegram received at LNS on September 3 from the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People.)

HANOI (LNS)--"The Vietnamese people are deeply moved by the murder of George Jackson, valiant militant for colored peoples' freedom, and human rights. We strongly condemn this barbarous act of racism and repression of U.S. authorities."

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Let's lock up Thieu and throw away the key.

From: Radical Education Project, P.O. Box 561-A
Detroit, Michigan 48232 (313) 825-2922

In the past 10 months or so, we've had an incredible response from prisoners all over the country taking up on our free-literature-to-prisoners policy. Requests have really snowballed in the past four months, and so have problems such as censorship and confiscation of stuff we send out, complicated by correspondence restrictions

Though in many places there are now informal circulating libraries as well as study groups, we don't have much stuff that would directly help people fight in their situations. And we've been getting a number of requests for help that we can't directly deal with -- such as legal assistance -- and for literature we don't have direct access to

Most of the people we've heard from are black, none are women, few are "movement" people (such as draft resisters), some are Muslims. So far, we haven't actively sought more contacts, because we can't really afford to handle the volume of literature requests we're handling right now: without any publicity effort on our part, we've heard from more than 200 prisoners in more than 25 places, several people in each place ask for more and more stuff, and the numbers grow daily.

So we're not asking for lists of people you've had contact with, but we would like to exchange experiences with people who've been dealing with this set. We'd like to know about legal hassles, evasive tactics and subterfuge (particularly about censorship), what kinds of stuff people have been getting into prisons, and some leads toward meeting our requests.

Are people willing to donate literature? A clearinghouse might be a good idea, but REP has no resources to put into that right now -- what about compiling a listing of possible free resources? Services, references, legal aid, whatever. Leads on possible subsidies would help too.

From: O'PA c/o McDermott, P.O. Box 844, Morris Heights Station, Bronx, New York 10453

On the Road Again is a noospaper for hitchhikers. People who hitch a lot or pick up a lot of hitchhikers should send us some money and we'll ship you a bunch to pass out. Volume #1 has articles on how to hitch, Mother Bloor on the Road, Rock and Roll, &c. Volume #2 may never come out. Make checks, money orders, indelicate suggestions and death threats out to D. O'Neil. If your letter gets no response, tell LNS; the p.o. been messin wit us.

From: Bill Rowe, Box 27083 Detroit, Michigan 48227

Wanted: Business oriented individual to serve as business manager and bookkeeping for Rainbow People's Party. Prefer someone with business experience & some accounting background. Write to the above address.

From: Bob Lamb, Carol Callum, Movement Speakers Bureau, Washington D.C. (202) 737-5617

During the past year many movement people assured us that the Movement Speakers Bureau provided a badly needed service, however, we seldom received the degree of cooperation and assistance necessary to make Move.Speak. a successful alternative institution

For your own information, this is how Movement Speakers works: to pay office and survival costs, we deduct 20% of a speaker's fee, ranging from \$50 to \$775. We take a 15% cut of fees of \$800 and above. If a speaker requests that the speaking fee be sent directly to some other movement organization, rather than keeping it themselves, we deduct 10%.

Last year we took a 25% share of paying speeches and still ended up deep in the red ink hole. With the good vibes we generated on many campuses last year and with more publicity this year we hope to eat regularly and maybe even pay our bills.

We have given up on the idea of trying to build a pile of loot which would be distributed to various movement groups at the end of the year. The best way for us to raise bread is to assist movement groups in organizing specific programs or by sending in good speakers to give a boost to programs.

Our objective is to raise political consciousness and to help build the Movement. We will do anything and everything we can to facilitate the appearance of genuine movement speakers throughout Amerika. If movement folks will get off their individual and collective asses and give us some assistance, Movement Speakers will be a worthwhile venture

END OF RMBB FOR TODAY ----- END OF RMBB FOR TODAY

HOME HEALTH HANDBOOK AVAILABLE
TO RURAL AND URBAN COMMUNES

LIBERATION News Service

*"Compulsive cleanliness is bourgeois...
sanitation is a revolutionary necessity."*

-- Che Guevara

The Home Health Handbook begins with this thought from Dr. Che and goes on to describe the health measures essential to open communal families. The authors are communards and doctors, mostly from the Burlington, Vermont area. The book focuses on the problems faced by rural communes, but there is much that applies as well to city folk

It is a practical how-to manual for group health with topics ranging from sanitation and nutrition, first aid, and dental care, to pregnancy, VD and hepatitis. The book cost \$2 to print, but for those who can't afford it, it's free from: HOME HEALTH HANDBOOK, c/o Seam, 152 Church Street, Burlington, Vt. 05401

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USA UT UR INDOCHINA

(Note to Editors: This is the first of a two-part series of articles on Sears, giving some background information on Sears' domestic structure. The next one will examine Sears' operations and influence in Latin America.)

SEARSCOPOLY

CACIA/LIBERATION News Service

"The girl on the cover smiles at you pleasantly. Her brown hair falls softly to her shoulders, her brown eyes sparkle. Her hip is turned toward you, ever so slightly; enough to emphasize the gold buckle on her dress but not enough to be improper. In the lower right hand corner of the page, in italics, sits the following notice: 'You Can't Do Better Than Sears.'"

--from *Harmon's Magazine*

Few people who mail-order something from Sears--or as is now more common, drive to the nearest Sears shopping center--realize just how vast Sears is. 827 stores span all fifty states and another 90 cover 12 Latin American countries. With annual sales of over \$9.2 billion, only three industrial giants (General Motors, Ford and Standard Oil of New Jersey) and one utility (AT&T) are bigger than Sears.

In terms of economic power, Sears is the 26th largest country in the capitalist world. Its gross national product is larger than that of Portugal, Colombia, Greece, Finland or Thailand. Sears' 360,000 employees are equivalent to just 1/25th of one percent of China's population, but Sears' income equals about 1/9th of China's GNP.

Sears' general offices and international headquarters are located in the Chicago area and the company's founding fathers have left their mark on the city. Sears director Max Adler built the Adler

Planetarium, and Julius Rosenwald helped build the Museum of Science and Industry, the Chicago Art Institute and the University of Chicago. Sears employs 31,000 workers locally and is currently building the world's largest building west of the Chicago loop (the downtown area) at a cost of over \$100 million.

There are 21 directors on the Sears board (twenty men and one woman). One of them is Sidney Leon Boyar, who is also a director of the following corporations:

Armstrong Rubber Co., DeSoto Inc., Kellwood Co., Warwick Electronics and Whirlpool Corp.

These companys produce much of the merchandise you see in Sears stores.

Boyar is only the tip of the iceberg. Through such devices as directorship interlocks (like Boyar), stock ownership, and buying monopolies (where Sears buys a large part of the particular company's total production) Sears controls many other corporations.

Below is a list of some of the most important of these, together with their products and the means Sears uses to control them.

Sears is the only merchandising corporation with enough capital (reported 1970 profits were \$464 million) to build such a network of 33 suppliers under more-or-less direct control. Of course Sears' connections with America's empire extend far beyond suppliers...

Every time you eat breakfast food made by General Foods or Quaker Oats, or use Kraft cheese, your money is going to the same men who run Sears. If you don't want to buy a Silvertone radio from

CORPORATION	PRODUCT	METHODS OF CONTROL
WHIRLPOOL CORP.	Refrigerators, washers, dryers Colgate refrigerators and freezers	8.4% stock ownership, 1 director Sears buys 65% of their output
WARWICK INDUSTRIES	High fidelity radios, televisions High fidelity recorders, phonographs	56% owned by Whirlpool, 1 director
DE SOTO INC.	Automobiles	47% stock ownership 11.77% stock owned by Sears Foundation
ARMSTRONG RUBBER	Automobile tires	8.8% stock ownership, 1 director
DE SOTO INC.	Automobiles	32% stock ownership, 1 director
KELLWOOD	Woolen apparel	21.1% stock ownership, 1 director Sears buys 85% of their output
WHITTAKER	Automobile tires	12% stock ownership, 1 director
SYLVANIA	Automobile tires	1 director
ELECTRICAL	Automobile tires	5% stock owned by Sears Foundation

Sears, you can buy one from Zenith, where Tom Ayers of Sears sits on the board. The men who fix the high prices on the drugs you buy from G.D. Searle and the American Hospital Supply, and demand the exorbitant rates charged by Commonwealth Edison and Northern Illinois Gas also run Sears.

Sears Board member Austin Cushman, who was elected Chairman of the Board in 1962, is a director of the Bank of America and the First National Bank of Chicago, as well as of the brokerage house of Dunn & Bradstreet, General Foods Corp., and four other corporations.

Current Board Chairman Metcalf, who joined Sears in 1934, received \$350,000 in cash and \$265,000 in stocks as salary in 1969. He is now a director of the First National Bank of Chicago, the First National City Bank of New York (Rockefeller-controlled), and Sears' Homart Development Corporation which builds shopping centers, each with a Sears store in the middle. He is also on the board of U.S. Steel which daily pumps 68 tons of pollutants into the Chicago air.

Metcalf is also a trustee of Radio Free Europe, and of Northwestern University (whose President, J. Roscoe Miller, just retired from the Sears board).

Even though Sears brags that it encourages its employees to rise up through the ranks and is very proud of the number of twenty and thirty-year workers it has--this is not the way most of the directors got their posts.

Sears president Arthus Wood was the son of the president of the Chicago Stock Exchange and married Pauline Palmer (daughter of Potter Palmer III of the famous Palmer House) in November of 1945. The next year he was invited to join Sears as head of their legal department. Now he is a director of Quaker Oats, Allstate Insurance, and Southern California Gas.

Crowdus Baker first joined Sears in 1926 and in 1928 married Lorena Ann Proctor of Proctor and Gamble. Before retiring from the board this year, Crowdus was a director of Allstate Insurance and three other Sears subsidiaries: of Warwick Electronics, of Bethlehem Steel and of various financial institutions including the Chemical Bank of New York, the Continental Illinois Bank and the Sears Bank.

Some of the directorships have been in the family for generations: Julius Rosenwald II (now a director) is the grandson of industrialist Julius Rosenwald I and the fourth member of the family to sit on the board since Julius I joined the company in 1895. Since then, not a single year has passed in which there has not been at least one Rosenwald on the board. Julius was also the Chairman of the Department of War's Committee on Supplies during World War I and in 1918 toured France with a party of U.S. Army Generals. He took several cases of Sears catalogs along with him and, being the only civilian in the group, often introduced himself as General Merchandise.

He was also a trustee of the Rockefeller-endowed University and of the Rockefeller Foundation. In 1921, Sears was squeezed hard by a business depression and was in such desperate

shape that Julius dipped into his own pocket and loaned the company \$4,000,000 in cash and \$16,000,000 in securities to pay debts and complete the purchase of the Chicago store. Rockefeller responded by firing off a cable of congratulations.

In this same year of 1921, Edgar Stern Jr.'s father married Julius I's daughter Edith Rosenwald. By 1933, Stern senior was a Sears director and now his son is director of several banks, mineral and timber companies in Louisiana, and directly or through trusteeships holds over half a million shares of Sears stock worth \$43.7 million.

Year after year, Sears gets around 15% of the general merchandising business in the United States with a sales volume of almost \$10 billion last year. The rate of growth in 1968 was 8.6% and this year the prediction is for 14% to 15%.

Sears is the fastest-growing corporate giant with a 38% increase in declared profits between 1965 and 1969. Even Rockefeller's Standard Oil of New Jersey only managed 21.1%.

Although most people just think of Sears as the department store downtown--Sears is much, much more. Sears owns Allstate, the United States' second largest automobile insurance Co. (State Farm is the largest). Allstate is the company that came out on the bottom of the June 1970 Consumer Reports article on the industry. According to the article, customers felt increases in premiums were "grossly unfair" and "felt so intimidated by the threat of cancellation, nonrenewal, or excessive premiums that they were willing to sacrifice benefits rather than risk a claim against them."

Sears also has its own savings and loan bank in California, a mutual fund called Allstate Enterprises, insurance companies in Switzerland and Mexico, and a whole network of stores and manufacturers throughout Latin America. Allstate president Judson Branch, commenting on the mutual fund, gives the Sears story in a nutshell:

"We expanded our financial services for only one reason--to make a buck."

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VIETNAMESE AVOIDING BATTLES WITH BLACK GIs

PHILADELPHIA (LNS)--The North Vietnamese army has set down a policy of avoiding conflict with predominantly black American combat units, according to the Rev. Muhammad Kenyatta, director of the Black Economic Development Conference. He was announcing the findings of his five week tour of North Vietnam and China.

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NORTH VIETNAM'S VIETNAM COURIER AVAILABLE

NEW YORK (LNS)--Both current and back copies are available of Vietnam Courier--a North Vietnamese newspaper. Send 25¢ to cover the costs of mailing and handling to Liberation News Service, 160 Claremont Ave., New York, NY, 10027.

-30-

ELECTRONIC DEATH: THE NEW WAR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

by Orville Schell

Pacific News Service/LIBERATION, Vol. 1, No. 1, 1970

Electronic sensors and related weapons do not bleed, die, frag their opponents, get addicted, or write revealing letters home. But out of Indochina, they have come to represent a kind of military might which is efficient, accurate, and indiscriminate. "All that we know," said one U.S. Special Forces member, "is that there is something out there. It could be wind, an elephant, or an enemy soldier. We really have almost no idea what we are shooting at."

Senator William Proxmire put it even more succinctly: "The sensors can not tell the difference between soldiers, women or children. Whole villages may be wiped out by seeding wide areas with air dropped explosive devices designed to kill anyone who ventures into their neighborhood."

Yet tens of thousands of these min-scragging devices have been dropped throughout Southeast Asia as part of the Air Force's operation Igloo White over the Ho Chi Minh Trail. The operation was described by Brigadier General Wm. John Evans, Deputy Assistant for Sensor Exploitation, Air Force, as "...entirely air supported; it involves no ground forces." Senator Proxmire has called the effort a "seismic and acoustic Christmas tree."

When the sensors are activated by either seismic or acoustic disturbance, they transmit radio signals to a relay platform (usually an F-4B) which flies overhead 24 hours a day. In the North or North Vietnamese soldiers walk through or a bugged area, the Pentagon has purchased a kind of "button bomblets," disguised as button batteries, which snap, crackle, and pop if they are walked on.

In the relay aircraft the data is processed by computer. Although it is possible to analyze the data on board and call in an airstrike, usually the information is usually relayed to the Air Force's Infiltration Surveillance Center in Samut Pranam, Thailand.

There, in Thailand, the Air Force has 360-65 computer stores previously good for intelligence in data banks. When new information comes into the Center, the activation patterns of the sensors in the field are immediately processed in high speed print-out. Up-dated target areas in which the sensors have been activated can be called up on a TV screen and analyzed for the information. In a matter of seconds after the activation, analysts can watch the movement of bicycles or trucks on a screen, as if they were on a trail. Computers determine the direction, speed, and position regardless of weather or time of day.

The Thai computer "herd" cost \$625 million to operate during

the Vietnam war. It is used by gunships or fighter-bombers to drop bombs in Laos and Vietnam or on the caravans of the Ho Chi Minh Trail. According to one Air Force official, "We view the Ho Chi Minh Trail like a target on a target map and we plug it in and we shoot it."

The sensors are also used to relay to attack aircraft and into their on-board computers. The sensors then fly directly to the target and are used for further navigation. In fact, the plane does not even see the target or the ground. At night-time or overcast, the computers rely on automatic release of weapons at the proper moment. As General Evans explained, "Using anti-aircraft ordinance (anti-personnel and fragmentation bombs), excellent results have been obtained with this blind-bombing method."

An Agence France Presse correspondent who recently journeyed down the Ho Chi Minh Trail described these "excellent results."

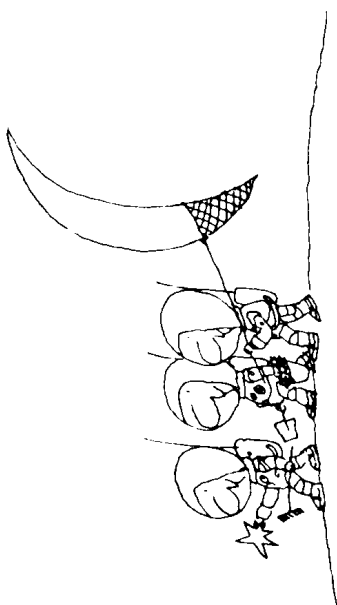
"On each side of the road," he reported, "there are heaps of scrap metal, pieces of aircraft, the contents of anti-personnel bombs, empty munitions casings, 57 mm cannon shells, detonated anti-personnel mines... At certain points, it is impossible to walk on the sides of the road."

"You sink up to your knees in an impalpable dust, the earth having become dust under the impact of the bombs and incendiary weapons... When the monsoon comes, that dust turns to mud and slides onto the roads... Nothing lives in this dust, not even crickets. Only man is resisting it."

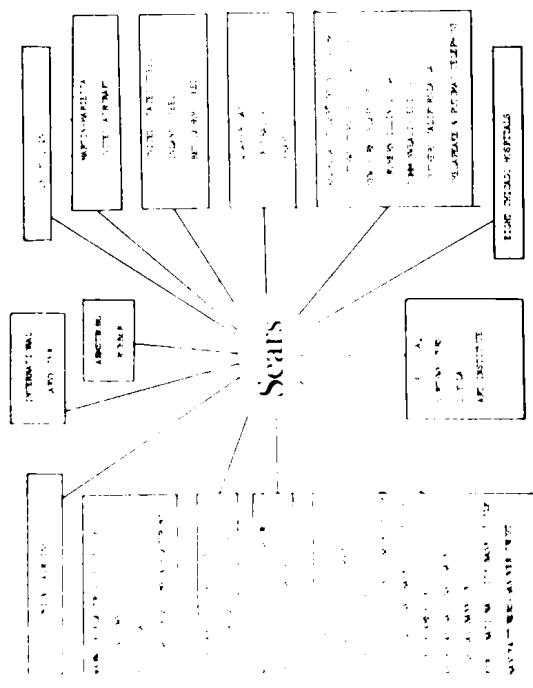
With such an electronic battlefield, the war in Indochina will be able to continue long after the last North Vietnamese soldier dies and the last American soldier is home. Sensors will continue to feed data to the F-4B bombers and B-52s which will rain destruction down on the silent land below. Aircraft will take off without publicity or fanfare from their bases in Thailand and the 7th fleet in the South China Sea to wage an ultimately depersonalized war of electronic machines against people.

The strategy is simple. If unspoken in public circles, the withdrawal of Saigon. Withdrawal will be a relief for Americans, but not for the South Vietnamese. Nixon's withdrawal has turned out to be a disaster for the South Vietnamese, the most successful of the forces in active duty, has called the withdrawal a "disaster."

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desclorox



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Credit Motot City Comics/LNS

U.S. Economy

Credit LNS

Lost in Space

Credit Le Nouvel Observateur/LNS

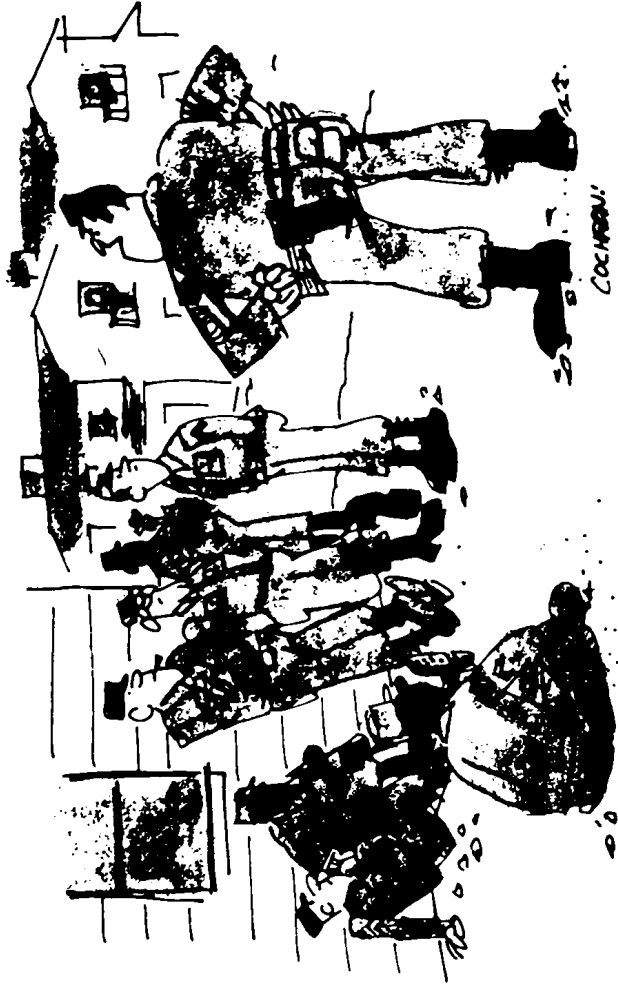
Sears Directorate

Credit CACLA/LNS



MURDER

SOUVENIR



COCORON!

"It has been moved and seconded that we fall in. All those in favor say aye."



by ed paschke/witzend



"Soldier, are you smoking your camouflage again? . . ."



I WANT CASH!

Army Discipline
Credit The Ally/LNS

In the Field
Credit The Ally/LNS

Uncle Sam
Credit The Ally/LNS

Souvenir
Credit The Ally/LNS

Dennis the Menace
Credit Fifth Estate/LNS